

# COAST OF MEXICO IS DESCRIBED

L. H. McMahan Tells of Conditions As He Found Them In Trip Thru Western Area

By L. H. McMahan.

The west coast of Mexico has more undeveloped resources than any other country of like area I have ever seen. The mountain range paralleling the Gulf of California and extending further south than the lower end of Lower California is one of the richest mineral ranges in the world. It is practically unprospected and undeveloped, although it has some of the richest ledges in the world now being worked by Americans. The valleys, extending from the foothills to the gulf, have a potential wealth beyond practical computation. Practically all of this land is exceedingly rich, but most of it will have to be irrigated and one American company is now expending \$9,000,000 in one valley for this purpose. Rice, corn, wheat, barley, fruits and vegetables can be grown. Two crops of corn can be raised a year and when I was there strawberries, peas, etc., were and for some time had been ripe.

The Southern Pacific company has a road through there and the gulf affords water transportation, while the freight rates to the middle west are no greater from Mazatlan, 650 miles from Arizona, than they are from the border.

In none of these valleys is the summer heat as bad as it is in the Imperial valley and along the coast, for about nine months in the year the climate is about like our best days in June, with our necessity for blankets each night.

The ability of that country to produce is beyond the comprehension of those used to the temperate zones. In the middle of February I saw wheat headed and corn in the dough. The wheat looked like it ought to yield fully 40 bushels to the acre, possibly more. Since Christmas, tomatoes have come this way in carload lots and there are 8000 acres now in vines. The profit varies according to the markets in this country, it being from 70 cents to \$1.25 on a 30-pound box. Either one person or many must have at least 500 acres in order to load cars and the cost of producing and packing is about \$40 an acre. Sometimes insects bother, but spraying and dusting machinery reduce this risk to the minimum.

Cantaloupes are grown extensively and they arrive a full month ahead of those raised in the Imperial valley, while one energetic, speculative American shipped out a carload of cucumbers and cleared \$2450 on it.

Grape fruit, as sweet as navel oranges, can be bought from peddlers 3 for 5 cents; ripe pineapples 3 1/2 cents each. This and other fruits are not allowed to cross the border to interfere with California and Florida monopolies. Tamales sell for 2 1/2 cents each and these tamales have sure-enough chicken in them. Oysters can be picked up, or bought for 75 cents a two bushel sack. I have seen oysters, minus the shell, six inches long and they are equal to the best Tokyo points. If one wants birds to eat or venison, all one needs is a 22-calibre rifle. The Mexican does not hunt and there are no game laws, no policemen, no preachers, no courts, no predatory lawyers and few doctors. Wherefore, a man has a chance there to live like a Christian, long and happily.

Labor is cheap—a Mexican will work for from 50 to 75 cents a day and, contrary to the general idea prevalent here, he is a good worker. The girls will work in your home for \$5 a month. And here I am going to try to correct a popular, but entirely erroneous impression about the Mexicans. I have roamed in many different countries, but I have never found

## Night News Summary

Rome.—Military occupation of Fiume ordered by Italian government. Arms corps at Trieste to be used.

Washington.—Irreconcilables launch new attack against four power treaty after friends had argued among selves as to whether or not pact might properly be called an "alliance."

St. Augustine.—President Harding ready to take up navy fuel situation as result of congressional reductions in appropriation for the purpose, on return to Washington, he tells Secretary Denby over long distance telephone.

New York.—Anthracite coal mine owners and workers committee of eight began to organize for series of deliberations in effort to avert general strike by settlement of wage disagreements. Operator and union heads express doubt that new scale could be drawn in time to prevent suspensions of operations on April 1.

Paris.—Berlin government had informed allied reparations committee that seventh ten-day payment of \$1,000,000 gold marks has been made in form of approved foreign securities.

## Objections Filed To Jorgenson Estate

Charging that the inventory and appraisement of the estate of Hans Jorgenson, who died over a year ago, was incorrect and untrue O. P. Hoff, state treasurer, filed his objections to the account in the probate court this morning.

The property as inventoried was found by the appraisers amounted to \$23,000, most of which was personal property.

Two Lose Lives In Fire  
Augusta, Ga., March 18.—James A. Tant, aged 60, and his wife, 45, lost their lives in a fire that early today destroyed the old Grand opera house here. The couple had lived in the building for 20 years.

Payment of the inheritance tax on the estate of Christine Shanahan of Multnomah county, amounting to \$16,372 has just been made to State Treasurer Hoff. The payment represents an increase of \$2000 in taxes over the amount which the state would have received on the original appraisal filed with the state treasurer. Investigation instituted by Hoff into the value of the estate resulted in an increase in the valuation from \$111,600 to \$148,900.

Alice in Hungerland, the near east relief movie film, will be shown at the theater at Stayton next Tuesday and at Jefferson on Wednesday. D. E. Norcross addresses the Christian church at Stayton Sunday morning and the Methodist church Sunday night.

Mrs. Ella Trevis of this city has accepted a position as stenographer in the office of A. C. Barber, state insurance commissioner. She assumed her new duties yesterday.

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## Stewart Says He Will Stay In Polk Race

Dallas, Or., March 18.—In a signed statement to the voters of Polk county, George Stewart, candidate for county commissioner on the republican ticket, takes exception to the convention of voters that eliminated him from the fight and states that he is in the field and intends to remain so. He states that he first sought the nomination after careful deliberation and the earnest solicitation of his friends. He speaks rather disparagingly of the recent convention as a whole, contending that the action taken was but by a small clique in the republican part of Polk county. Furthermore, according to Mr. Stewart, he claims that he received no invitation to attend the meeting and that he was not aware that it was to be held at the time. He exonerates the endorsed candidate William Riddell Jr. from any participation in the actions of the convention. Mr. Stewart looks upon the convention as an effort to discredit him in the eyes of the county voters and does not hesitate to publicly say so. The principal reason that seems to have eliminated him from the endorsement of the club was the fact that he resides within four miles from a present incumbent in the county commissionership body and the voters deemed it inadvisable to have two members of the court from the same neighborhood.

**Large Crowd Sees Picture, "Alice In Hungerland" Here**  
The Salem small boy, his sister plus a goodly sprinkling of his parents, of residents from the country and delegates to the county Sunday school convention were guests of A. E. Lafar, manager of the Grand Theatre at 10:30 this morning for the special showing of "Alice in Hungerland." Long before the time set for the sidewalk on both sides of the theatre was alive with vociferous youngsters.

Contrary to expectations of some the film is not made up of "horror" and while enough is shown to indicate that the background of the pictures is suffering, the emphasis is laid on the happy life of the hundred thousand and more orphan children safe in America's care.

Alice's welcome by the 6,000 children at Tiflis, her view of 5,000 orphans making great living letters at Alexandropol, the sight of the unloading of an entire ship-load of flour brought forth enthusiastic applause from the audience that filled the Grand to capacity.

Both children and adults united in a generous contribution to the near East relief.

Manager Lafar and Judge Scott announced another free showing of "Alice" next Tuesday at 4 p.m.

In the chemical laboratories of Paris rubies have been produced that are perfect in appearance and meet every known test.

## Day Courses For Auto Mechanics To Be Opened Monday

Eight auto mechanics have signed up for the day courses of state vocational training courses at 303 North Liberty under the supervision of H. J. Milson. The courses will open Monday and any one who wishes to register may do so at that time.

The night class in the same courses has been filled, the entire enrollment being 15.

Cigars, especially intended for women smokers, are being imported from Havana.

## Salem Cannery to Build \$2500 Annex to Plant

In anticipation of increased business for the coming season, the Producers' Canning & Packing company of this city will begin work immediately on an addition to its plant located at the corner of North Commercial and Jefferson streets. It was learned this afternoon. The new annex will cost approximately \$2500, according to a building permit issued the company by Mark Poulsen, deputy city recorder.

Another permit issued by Mr. Poulsen calls for the erection by Joe McAllister of a new \$4000 residence at 975 1/2 st.

## New Cannery At Dallas to Build Modern Plant

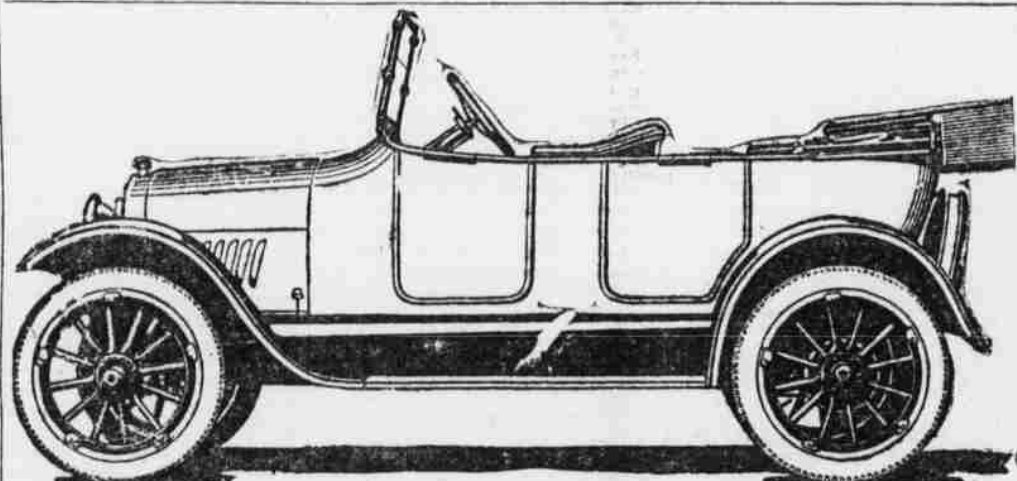
Dallas, Or., March 18.—The recently organized LaCreole Canning company have purchased property on Lyle street and will shortly start the erection of a one and one-half story frame building to house the plant. A short time ago at a sale the cannery purchased the machinery from a defunct cannery concern in this city and it is the intention of the newly organized company to utilize some of this machinery and also to purchase new what other machinery and equipment is necessary for operation. The size of the building that is to be erected is 60x120 feet with platforms running the entire length of the building, one six feet in width and the other eight. The building will contain a large preparation room, a commodious cooking room and ample storage room. The building is exceptionally well ventilated and lighted and will have the general office in the main room. It is the expectation to have the building completed within thirty days time. A 225 foot spur track will also be built.

## Linn County Suit Is Brought Here

The suit of the County of Linn against Laura H. Burkhart and Fred Burkhart, which was brought to establish the value of five acres of land to be used as a right of way for the Pacific highway, was filed this morning in the circuit court on a change of venue ordered by the Linn county courts.

Under the state law the right of ways for state highways must be acquired by the counties. The plaintiff alleges that the Burkharts refuse to accept a reasonable price for the property.

The defendants in their answer allege that the warehouse valued at \$2,500 and having an annual rental of \$500, now occupies the right-of-way and will be entirely useless on the construction of the highway. They also assert that the land is worth \$100 an acre, and ask a price of \$8,750.



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